

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

### Listing of Claims:

- 1.(currently amended)      A fingertip-mounted minimally invasive surgical instrument comprising:
  - a)      a finger mount, having a proximal and distal end, and a cavity for releasably receiving a fingertip; [[and]]
  - b)      an ultrasonic transducer and receiver positioned on the distal end of the finger mount; and
  - c)      a tactile feedback transducer positioned within the cavity for contact with the fingertip.
- 2.(original)      The fingertip-mounted minimally invasive surgical instrument of claim 1, further comprising a pressure switch located at the distal end of the finger mount.
- 3.(canceled)
- 4.(original)      The surgical instrument of claim 1, wherein the transducer is a crystal array.
- 5.(currently amended)      A method of performing a minimally invasive surgical procedure in a patient comprising:
  - a)      creating an incision to permit hand access within the patient;
  - b)      introducing a hand instrument comprising:
    - i)      a finger mount, having a proximal and distal end, and a cavity for releasably receiving a fingertip; [[and]]
    - ii)      an ultrasonic transducer and receiver positioned on [the distal end of] the finger mount; and
    - iii)      a tactile feedback transducer positioned within the cavity for contact with the fingertip; and

c) actuating the transducer to sense a operational site within the patient.

6.(original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of releasably engaging a finger with the hand instrument.

7.(original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of activating the transducer to image the surgical site

8.(original) The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of actuating the transducer to provide therapeutic effects to the surgical site.